



Asbestos Notification

The Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) is committed to providing a safe and healthful work environment for all personnel. Consistent with this commitment, and in compliance with California Health & Safety Code 25915 *et seq.*, JPL provides this notification to subcontractors of the presence of asbestos-containing materials (ACM) in JPL buildings.

Laboratory management, working with the JPL Occupational Safety Program Office (OSPO) and the Facilities Division, manages an on-going program of asbestos identification and control. JPL's Asbestos Management Plan includes bulk sampling surveys, surveys of specific locations of ACM, air monitoring results, friable asbestos condition assessments conducted by an outside consultant, procedures and handling restrictions, information concerning potential health risks, and an annual Asbestos Notification and Asbestos Awareness Training for members of the Facilities Division and Facilities Maintenance and Operations Section staff who may come in contact with ACM.

Pursuant to the California Health and Safety Code Sections 25915 *et seq.*, JPL makes available for review by all subcontractors, all existing asbestos surveys conducted by or for JPL to determine the existence, specific locations of asbestos-containing construction materials within JPL buildings. The survey reports identify the existence of ACM on the Laboratory. These reports include the results of bulk sampling which provide data regarding material quantity, location and condition, as well as air monitoring data for sampling results conducted during and after abatement activities to ensure the affected work areas are below regulatory limits prior to re-occupancy. Survey reports are available for review during normal business hours at the OSPO. Please contact OSPO at extension 3-0886 for more information or to view the survey reports. Based on all asbestos surveys conducted, we believe the asbestos we have identified poses no significant hazard during normal operations.

Asbestos may be present in JPL buildings in various forms including, but not limited to, transite, thermal system insulation, roofing products, ceiling tiles, spray-applied acoustical ceiling, wall materials, floor tiles/linoleum, and mastic. Because asbestos is a mineral, asbestos fibers are relatively stable in the environment. Asbestos fibers do not evaporate into air. Asbestos containing material that can be crushed into a powder is called "friable asbestos." When asbestos containing materials become friable, there is a chance that asbestos fibers can become suspended in air. The friable asbestos identified at JPL is located in restricted access areas such as mechanical rooms, boiler rooms, and attics. In particular, some JPL buildings contain friable asbestos sprayed-on fireproofing above the ceilings: At the Oak Grove site, these include Buildings 167, 168, 169, 179, 180, 183, 186, 230, 238, 264, and 291.

Only authorized and properly trained subcontractors (with JPL OSPO verification) are permitted to perform work that may disturb ACM. OSPO shall be given notification and, if deemed necessary, a written description of any asbestos-related work to be conducted in areas where ACM may be present prior to the initiation of activities. The work to be performed will determine if these areas must be tested and cleared of ACM. The OSPO reviews air sampling results and documentation after completion of activities to ensure air levels are below regulatory limits. This documentation is maintained on an on-going basis and is available for subcontractor

review. Contact the OSPO, if you want to review copies of the applicable written procedures, handling restrictions, or sampling results.

Asbestos poses no risk to health unless it is disturbed in such a way that asbestos fibers become suspended in the air and inhaled. Building occupants must prevent the disturbance of ACM whenever possible, since ACM that is damaged or disturbed without proper controls may release asbestos fibers into the air. Asbestos is a potential health concern because long term, chronic inhalation exposure to high levels of asbestos can cause lung diseases such as asbestosis, mesothelioma, and/or lung cancer. Occupants shall not move, drill, bore, saw, sand, grind, abrade or otherwise disturb any material that contains asbestos. If any of the identified materials are disturbed, please contact the OSPO at extension 3-0886, so the material can be properly repaired and any releases immediately cleaned-up.

The JPL OSPO is dedicated to providing a safe and healthful work environment. If there are any questions, please contact the OSPO at extension 3-0886.